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United Nations

Report of the Committee on Conferences for 2006

General Assembly
Official Records
Sixty-first Session
Supplement No. 32 (A/61/32)

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Note

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Chapter I
Organizational matters

A. Membership

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 43/222 B of 21 December 1988, decided to retain the Committee on Conferences as a permanent subsidiary organ. Pursuant to the provisions of that resolution, in 2006 the Committee was composed of the following Member States: Argentina, Austria, Burundi, China, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, the Philippines, Romania, the Russian Federation, Senegal, the Syrian Arab Republic and the United States of America.

B. Officers

2. At its organizational session for 2006, the Committee elected the following officers to serve in 2006:

Chairperson:
Nonye Udo (Nigeria)

Vice-Chairpersons:
Enno Drofenik (Austria)
Laura Onisii (Romania)
Mhd. Najib Elji (Syrian Arab Republic)

Rapporteur:
Diego Simancas (Mexico)

3. At the same session, the Committee agreed in principle that the Chairman would undertake informal consultations with a view to determining the composition of the Bureau of the Committee in 2007.

C. Organization of work

4. At its organizational session (474th meeting), held on 11 May 2006, the Committee agreed to follow the guidelines adopted in 1994 and 1995 with regard to consideration of intersessional departures from the approved calendar of conferences and to meet, as required, to review proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings during sessions of the General Assembly.

5. The Committee convened its substantive session from 11 to 15 September 2006 (475th to 482nd meetings).

6. Representatives of the Secretariat addressed the Committee at its organizational session. The Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management addressed the Committee at the opening of its substantive session and introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences (A/61/129).

D. Programme of work

7. At its organizational session for 2005, held on 25 March 2005, the Committee had requested the Secretariat to submit a draft agenda for 2006 to the Committee at its organizational session for 2006. At its 474th meeting, the Committee adopted the proposed agenda (A/AC.172/2006/1) and requested the Secretariat to submit a draft agenda for 2007 to the Committee at its organizational session for 2007.

8. In order to provide more relevant advice to the General Assembly, the Committee decided to recommend for adoption by the Assembly elements of a draft resolution reflecting the substantive discussion that took place in the Committee, so as to facilitate the consideration of items by the Assembly.

E. Participation of observers

9. The following States were represented as observers: Finland, the Holy See, Japan, India, Portugal and South Africa.

Chapter II
Calendar of conferences and meetings

A. Matters related to and intersessional departures from the approved calendar for 2006

10. The General Assembly, in its resolution 60/236 A of 23 December 2005, approved the draft calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2006 and 2007 as submitted by the Committee on Conferences and amended by subsequent decisions taken by the Assembly at its sixtieth session. The calendar was issued as document A/AC.172/2006/2.

11. At its 373rd meeting, on 26 August 1994, the Committee had decided that, in future, requests for intersessional departures submitted to the Committee should be reviewed by the Bureau, in consultation with the Secretariat, for subsequent action.

12. At its 379th meeting, on 23 March 1995, the Committee had agreed that proposed changes to the calendar that did not have programme budget implications could be dealt with by the Secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau of the Committee.

13. At its substantive session of 1995, the Committee had decided that requests for intersessional departures submitted to the Committee that involved a change of venue should be referred to the members for approval. Departures that involved other types of changes, as decided upon by the Committee at its substantive session of 1994, should be reviewed by the Bureau, in consultation with the Secretariat, for subsequent action.

14. Requests submitted in 2006 for changes of venue or additional sessions/meetings and the action taken by the Committee are set out below.

Organ	*Request*	*Action taken*
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	To revise the dates of the first and second quarter sessions as follows: 14 February to 13 April and 2 to 30 May 2006 owing to the need to take up a number of papers on reform at short notice as well as the delay in a number of peacekeeping budgets. No additional meetings are involved.	Request approved
Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters	To convene the forty-seventh session of the Board in Geneva from 21 to 23 June 2006 rather than in New York to give members the opportunity to confer with participants in the Conference on Disarmament. Since the Board also serves as the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, the Geneva venue enables the Board members to be in close contact with the staff of the Institute.	Request approved
Group of governmental experts to consider further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons	To hold its first session in Geneva from 27 November to 1 December 2006 instead of in New York in order to afford members of the Group an opportunity to interact directly with participants in the Conference on Disarmament on current disarmament issues. Conference services in Geneva confirmed that the meetings could be accommodated within existing resources.	Request approved

Organ	Request	Action taken
Commission on Population and Development	To hold one additional meeting to conclude its session and make possible the timely adoption and submission of its report to the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council.	Request approved
Commission on the Status of Women	To convene one additional meeting in order to take action on remaining text in its report and thus conclude the work of its fiftieth session, which, owing to time constraints, could not be accomplished on the scheduled final day of the session. Services to be provided within existing resources.	Request approved
Committee on Information	To convene one additional meeting in order to review the Department of Public Information's strategic framework for 2008-2009, which, owing to the unavailability of the document, the Committee was unable to do at the time of the regular session. Services to be provided within existing resources.	Request approved, with one delegation to the Committee dissociating itself from the decision of the Bureau
Commission on Social Development	To convene one additional meeting to conclude the work of its forty-fourth session. Services to be provided within existing resources.	Request approved
Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities	To convene one additional meeting in order to adopt the draft convention as revised by the drafting committee. (However, services were not required, as the Committee completed the work of the eighth session within the allocated time.)	Request approved

B. Adoption of the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2007

Introduction and overview

15. At its 475th meeting, on 11 September, the Committee reviewed the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2007 (A/61/129/Add.1), reflecting the changes for the second year of the biennium since the adoption of the biennial calendar.

Discussion

16. Delegations noted that the Committee had a key role to play in ensuring effective management of United Nations conferences and meetings through a substantive consideration of all the issues arising in relation to conference management.

17. The Committee noted with satisfaction that the Secretariat had taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolution 60/236 concerning Orthodox Good Friday and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. It was noted that many entries in the calendar indicated only the month and the number of

days, without giving exact dates, which undermined the efficiency of meetings management. Given that measure of uncertainty, Committee members wished to know whether they could revert to a specific item in the calendar if it developed that there was an unfortunate overlap creating a problem of attendance. In addition, information was requested on the rules governing the servicing of informal consultations of certain bodies.

18. The representative of the Secretariat responded that in most cases, the Secretariat already had a rather precise idea of the probable dates for the events in the calendar, even though the bodies in question had wished to reserve a final decision. Any further changes to the calendar would be communicated to the Bureau of the Committee, and any problems identified would be vigorously pursued. Informal meetings were allotted services on an as-available basis, and every effort was made to provide timely servicing of preparatory committees.

C. Meetings management and improved utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities

1. Meeting statistics of United Nations organs and consultations with bodies concerning utilization of the conference services available to them

Introduction and overview

19. At its 475th and 476th meetings, on 11 September, the Committee considered the section of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences containing statistical data and analysis of the planned and actual utilization of conference resources allocated to a core sample of bodies that had met in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi in 2005 (A/61/129, paras. 14-23 and annex I). The overall utilization factor at the four duty stations had increased from 83 per cent in 2004 to 85 per cent in 2005, owing to improved utilization in New York, which had surpassed the 80 per cent benchmark for the first time. That improvement more than offset the slight dip at the other duty stations.

20. The Committee also heard an oral report by the Chairperson on her consultations with the eight intergovernmental bodies which had utilized less than the applicable benchmark percentage of their allocated resources for the past three years. Three of those bodies had reached or surpassed the 80 per cent benchmark in 2006, an achievement that many of her interlocutors had attributed to perseverance in consultations and other efforts to improve utilization. The aim of her consultations had been to strike a reasonable balance between efficient substantive work and rational use of conference resources by identifying, on a case-by-case basis, the major factors affecting low utilization and finding efficient ways and means to improve the situation. The meetings had been conducted in a spirit of cooperation and constructive dialogue, without losing sight of the specificity of the bodies concerned. The working methods of the bodies varied significantly, so that no one remedy could be applied to all. She had concluded that some of the bodies underutilizing their conference resources could use fewer meetings with interpretation to complete their work and, indeed, some had done so or expressed the intention to do so. She had also encouraged the adoption of such time-honoured methods as improving the accuracy of advance planning in terms of the number of meetings with interpretation; opening meetings on time and waiving the quorum rule; proceeding to discussion of other items or informal consultations; avoiding

last-minute cancellations of meetings; and making full use of the opportunity to hold informal consultations or allocate services to meetings of regional groups.

21. On the basis of her experience, she suggested a three-pronged approach. The Committee on Conferences and its Chairperson, acting on its behalf, should conduct consultations with chairpersons, particularly incoming chairpersons, and inform them of the relevant guidelines and recommendations for the utilization of conference services; the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management should continue its proactive approach with "underutilizers" at the planning stage; and the intergovernmental bodies should improve their planning and organization of work by being more realistic in their requests for conference services.

22. The Committee welcomed the increase in overall utilization. The view was expressed that consultations between the Chairperson and underutilizers was one of the most valuable tools that the Committee had at its command. It was stressed that the contact should be not only with the secretariat of the body in question but also with its chairperson and bureau, in order to avoid misunderstandings. While it was worthwhile to ensure the best use of conference-servicing resources, the needs of the intergovernmental bodies should not be lost sight of. Many reasons for a loss of available conference services were beyond the control of the bodies concerned. Some members found it paradoxical that while New York offered greater opportunities to reassign released resources, New York had the lowest utilization factor of all the duty stations.

23. In response to requests for clarification, a representative of the Secretariat briefly reviewed the methodology for calculating the indicators used, which had been approved by the Committee in previous years: the meeting ratio, the planning accuracy factor and the utilization factor. The value of the utilization factor as a tool was enhanced because it was calculated the same way at all four duty stations and had been the first such indicator to be automated. Since there was a greater likelihood in New York that cancelled meeting time could be reassigned to an unrelated body, for the sake of better comparison, a column had been added that showed the utilization factor that would result if only reassignments to related bodies had been credited. The core sample of bodies shown in A/61/129, annex I, included all bodies that had repeated sessions and excluded most ad hoc committees and expert groups. Despite all the possible extraneous factors, if an intergovernmental body consistently showed low indicators year after year, there was a good chance that with consultation it could improve its use of resources.

2. Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States

Introduction and overview

24. At its 476th meeting, on 11 September, the Committee considered the section of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences concerning the provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States (A/61/129, paras. 25-33). The percentage of such meetings provided with interpretation had increased from 85 per cent in 2004 to 87 per cent in 2005. However, interpretation services provided to such groups continued to be provided on an "as available" basis and depended largely on

cancellations of meetings by calendar bodies, whose improved utilization factors could actually reduce the availability of conference services for meetings of regional groups. As requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/236, the Secretariat identified two options to overcome the problem. The first option was to take advantage of a plan to allocate services on a weekly basis for meetings of bodies with an "as required" entitlement by offering those services to the regional groups when the bodies with entitlements did not require them. The second option was to earmark specific resources to enhance the predictability of servicing for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, which would require action by the Assembly.

Discussion

25. The Committee welcomed the concrete suggestions contained in the report, in view of the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies. Concern was expressed that, although the percentage of such meetings provided with interpretation was higher than in 2004, it was below the levels attained in earlier reporting periods. Some delegations were of the view that only earmarked resources and programming in the calendar would resolve the problem but, failing a consensus on that course of action, were willing to see the first proposed option tried. The view was also expressed that the first option would merely result in overbudgeting of conference resources for the bodies with "as required" entitlements and a decline in their utilization factors; instead, the Secretariat should continue its efforts to encourage the calendar bodies to incorporate the needs of regional groups into their programmes of work and, for example, to sacrifice one meeting a week to a related meeting of a regional group. However, the Secretariat noted that that initiative had apparently not had any real impact. Moreover, regional groups sometimes had a need to hold meetings that were not directly related to a specific committee. Clarification was requested as to whether the first option would require additional resources.

26. A representative of the Secretariat explained that the bodies with an "as required" entitlement were those that had a standing entitlement but no set sessional dates, such as subsidiary bodies of the Security Council and others, to be found on the last few pages of the calendar. Since the General Assembly and the Council had increased the number of their meetings, those bodies could no longer be serviced through the cancellation of meetings of the parent body, so that the Secretariat was obliged to set aside services for a certain number of meetings per week of the bodies with "as required" entitlements. If those services were not used by bodies that had entitlements, they could be used for meetings of regional groups. No additional budgetary resources were required.

3. United Nations Office at Nairobi

Introduction and overview

27. At its 476th meeting, on 11 September, the Committee considered the section of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences concerning the utilization of the conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (A/61/129, paras. 34-36). The Committee heard an oral report by the Assistant Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management on his recent

visit to the Office. For his first visit away from Headquarters since his recent appointment, he had chosen the only main United Nations office to be located in a developing country and had been impressed by the professionalism of the team and its fine performance under difficult circumstances. Despite the need to rely on extrabudgetary resources for 50 per cent of its funding, the Division of Conference Services enjoyed very good management and team spirit was high. However, unlike the other three duty stations, central planning and coordination functions were being funded exclusively from extrabudgetary resources. The government diplomatic police force was making a strong contribution to enhancing the safety and security of United Nations personnel. The Government was also very supportive in many other ways and valued the United Nations presence.

28. Some upcoming large meetings would test the limits of its physical plant. Utilization of the interpretation team had increased to 53 per cent, although that figure did not reflect assignments abroad. The Office had met all requests by regional groups for meetings with interpretation. There continued to be problems in filling vacant interpretation posts, particularly Arabic posts. Of the successful candidates from the last Arabic interpretation examination, none were interested in working in Nairobi. It was felt that a targeted examination for Nairobi would not be fruitful currently and that there were other solutions that could be tried first. For example, a candidate who had come close to passing the exam had been given an 11-month contract in Nairobi and was being trained in the hope that the candidate would be able to pass the exam on a second try. Unfortunately, there had not been any internal candidates for the new P-3 information technology post.

Discussion

29. Additional information was given on the diplomatic protection unit and security liaison committee established by the Government of Kenya to work with the United Nations, and the commitment of the Government to the security and safety of United Nations personnel was commended. A number of delegations stressed the importance of ensuring equitable treatment for the United Nations Office at Nairobi as one of the four main United Nations duty stations. It was noted with satisfaction that all meetings of the Nairobi-based United Nations bodies in 2005 had taken place in Nairobi in conformity with the headquarters rule. Concern was expressed that there was no predictable funding for the central planning and coordination function. Several delegations thought that a special exam for Nairobi could yield useful results. It was decided that vacancy issues could be further discussed directly with the representative of conference services in Nairobi during the videoconference to be held on 13 September. Many delegations showed a readiness to assist the Secretariat in organizing a competitive examination to fill the vacancies in Arabic interpretation in Nairobi.

4. Improved utilization of the conference centre at the Economic Commission for Africa

Introduction and overview

30. At its 476th meeting, on 11 September, the Committee considered the section of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences providing an overview of efforts to improve the utilization of the conference centre at the Economic Commission for Africa (A/61/129, paras. 37-40). The Assistant Secretary-

General for General Assembly and Conference Management had recently visited the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and reported that the situation regarding use of the conference centre had improved considerably since 2005, when the security situation in Addis Ababa had forced the cancellation of a large number of meetings. Requests for use of the conference centre were currently being reviewed on a case-by-case basis. ECA was not part of the integrated global management system and therefore had applied its own methodology in calculating the utilization rate. It should be noted that when the formula applied in the four main duty stations was used, the 2005 utilization rate rose from 28 per cent to 42.3 per cent; for the period from January to June 2006, the rate had risen to 67.9 per cent. The Commission had a strong information technology team and a well-established printing and publishing facility, and the Assistant Secretary-General had suggested that the African Union, also based in Addis Ababa, might consider outsourcing some of its publishing to ECA.

Discussion

31. Satisfaction was expressed at the improvement in the utilization rate of the conference centre at ECA, and it was noted that the differences in methodology used to calculate that rate should be taken into consideration. A suggestion was made that the United Nations Office at Nairobi and ECA could cooperate more closely in the area of information technology and exchange good practices and experience.

D. Requests for exceptions to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243

Introduction and overview

32. At its 475th and 476th meetings, on 11 September, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences (A/61/129), chapter III, section C, and annex III, concerning requests from subsidiary bodies, with an explanation of reasons and an additional request transmitted subsequently, for exceptions to be made to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243, in which the Assembly had decided that no subsidiary organ of the General Assembly might meet at United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly unless explicitly authorized by the Assembly. Owing to the timing of its session, from 11 to 15 September 2006, the Committee handled the matter via written communications.

Conclusions and recommendations

33. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly explicitly authorize the following bodies to meet in New York during the main part of its sixty-first session, on the understanding that all such meetings would be allocated conference services on an as-available basis in such a way that the work of the Assembly and its Main Committees would not be impeded:

(a) Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People;

(b) Committee on Relations with the Host Country;

(c) Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

(d) Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund;

(e) United Nations Disarmament Commission;

(f) Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories;

(g) Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities;

(h) Committee on Conferences.

E. Impact on meetings held at Headquarters during the implementation of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach)

Introduction and overview

34. At its 477th meeting, on 12 September, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of the capital master plan on meetings to be held at Headquarters during its implementation (A/61/300).

Discussion

35. Satisfaction was expressed that the implementation of the capital master plan would not cause any interruption in meetings planned for Headquarters and that careful planning would ensure that the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management could maintain the quality of conference services provided without adversely affecting the working conditions and equal treatment of language staff. Although some delegations expressed regret at the loss of exhibition space during construction, a representative of the Secretariat said that the temporary facility was intended to be a basic functional space that would replace core facilities, and that replacing exhibit space in a temporary facility would not be cost-effective. It was noted that, while all meetings on the calendar could be accommodated, there would be less flexibility during construction for the many side events that often accompanied sessions of certain bodies. Greater flexibility would necessarily be shown for meetings of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council but, in general, meetings should be as predictable as possible in order to avoid additional costs that would be incurred from construction delays caused by meetings held outside normal working hours.

36. The Committee expressed appreciation for the continuous interaction between the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and the capital master plan project. It intended to keep the matter under constant review and to request the Secretary-General to report periodically thereon to the General Assembly through the Committee.

Chapter III
Integrated global management

Introduction and overview

37. At its 476th and 477th meetings, on 11 and 12 September, respectively, the Committee on Conferences considered the section of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences concerning integrated global management (A/61/129, paras. 2-12). Progress had been made by the task forces established under the integrated global management project in identifying and harmonizing/standardizing common approaches to administrative policies, practices and procedures across the four duty stations of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi. The seventh Coordination Meeting of Conference Managers, held in Vienna in June 2006, had reached new agreement in the areas of proactive document management, capacity calculations, a common terminology database for language staff and computer-assisted translation.

38. A non-paper on the information technology global initiative was circulated, highlighting the major findings of a study conducted across the four duty stations with the help of a consultancy firm. In response to the recommendations from the study, an information technology governance board under the Assistant Secretary General for General Assembly and Conference Management was established, along with three project teams to launch a centrally hosted reporting database, further integrate the current meetings management system across the duty stations and conduct a technical evaluation with a view to standardizing the document management systems at all duty stations.

Discussion

39. Delegations welcomed the progress made and looked forward to seeing the compendium of information on the results of the task forces established in 2004-2005, while stressing that the recommendations contained in the compendium must be in conformity with legislative mandates. The Secretariat confirmed that it would abide by those legislative mandates when finalizing the compendium, which would be made available to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session. The view was expressed that the integrated global management initiative could be considered successful if it ensured a balanced division of labour among the four duty stations. Progress in implementation of many of the initiatives of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management was noted, while some delegations also felt that innovations should be introduced in an evolutionary way, with the main emphasis on improving the quality of services. In reply to the concerns expressed by a number of delegations regarding computer-assisted translation and its effect on quality and accuracy, a representative of the Secretariat stressed that such tools were not to be confused with machine translation. The tools could be useful when applied to the 25 to 30 per cent of the translation workload that could be considered repetitive, providing translators with a database of previously translated material which they were free to accept or reject, as appropriate. It was also important that the unique features and working methods of the various units of the Department, in particular the language services, be carefully taken into account.

40. It was emphasized that the global management project was a continuous process and that some of its components, such as a standardized methodology for calculating capacity and workload-sharing and the common terminology database, were not yet a reality. In reply to questions raised in the discussion, a representative of the Secretariat said that the terminology coordination board rotated the chairmanship among the duty stations. The regional commissions were also interested in joining the process and had become full members. Although the membership of that board did not currently cover each official language, the terminology specialists in each duty station could be consulted when necessary.

41. Several delegations stressed that the funding of the central planning and coordination function in Nairobi from the regular budget was crucial in order to ensure parity across duty stations, while one delegation did not favour that action. While some delegations considered that integrated global management was a departmental initiative that could be implemented as the tools became available, one delegation believed that a mandate from the General Assembly was required.

Chapter IV
Documentation and publication-related matters

A. Submission, availability and distribution of documentation

Introduction and overview

42. At its 477th meeting, on 12 September, the Committee considered the sections of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences concerning document management (A/61/129, paras. 44-67 and annex IV). The Committee was informed that, in the interests of clear accountability, statistics on the submission, processing and issuance of all slotted documents for the first half of 2006 were presented in annex IV. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management had made advance planning, capacity planning and dynamic prioritization the three pillars of its proactive document management system, applied with flexibility in view of the fluidity of the conference-servicing needs of intergovernmental bodies. Through intensive work with author departments, using the tools of the slotting system and waiver management, the timeliness of submissions under the mandated 10-4-6 framework had improved, but showed room for further improvement. Capacity planning was aimed at matching capacity with expected workload. Dynamic prioritization referred to the assignment of priority ratings that changed as documents approached the time when they were to be considered and constituted a way of adjusting to work overloads while providing the documents most needed for deliberations by intergovernmental bodies. The Committee's support for the enforcement of past decisions on the control and limitation of documentation was solicited.

43. As requested by Member States, the Department had set up a variety of transparency and accountability mechanisms. To invite feedback from intergovernmental bodies on ways to improve client satisfaction, it had instituted the practice of providing document-service reports to the presiding officers of bodies receiving pre-session documents; a total of 29 such reports had been provided by June 2006 and 10 responses received, which were generally positive. As an author department, the Department insisted on 100 per cent compliance with submission deadlines by its staff.

Discussion

44. The Committee stressed that it attached great importance to both the quality and the timeliness of documentation. The progress made in timely issuance was welcome, but much more needed to be done to improve compliance with General Assembly decisions on the distribution of documents in accordance with the six-week rule, although it was acknowledged that failure to comply with that rule was sometimes due to factors beyond the control of the Department. The advances in electronic inputting and electronic document management were also welcomed. The importance of simultaneous distribution in all official languages was stressed, and greater vigilance was requested in ensuring that documents were not published on the website in only some of the official languages.

45. In response to a request for clarification, a representative of the Secretariat explained that the handful of 8-4-4 arrangements mentioned in paragraph 47 of the report of the Secretary-General were not a pilot project but an effort to

accommodate certain bodies that had stated a preference for a later submission deadline for their documents and in return could accept later issuance. On the question of the authority to opt for a four-week deadline for issuance, the rule established by the General Assembly remained, but for practical reasons those bodies had opted for an alternate delivery schedule. The Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund, for example, held three sessions per year and had only 11 weeks between sessions, which made a 10-week prior submission date for the authors impracticable. Some delegations expressed interest in the 8-4-4 experiment and commended the Secretariat for taking the initiative to find a solution that worked for both parties. In answer to the question as to whether the bodies that had opted out of the 10-4-6 format were actually experiencing more timely issuance of their pre-session documents, the representative of the Secretariat responded that although issuance four weeks prior to sessions had not been fully achieved, the timeliness of issuance for those bodies had clearly improved.

46. In answer to the question as to whether efforts were continuing to persuade depository libraries to waive their entitlement to hard copies of documents, a representative of the Secretariat explained that such efforts had not borne fruit, in part because some libraries in developing countries were not equipped to handle electronic copies successfully. However, the Secretariat was reminded that the mandate to continue its efforts in that regard was still in effect.

47. With regard to the request contained in paragraph 53 of the report concerning exceptions to page limits, delegations queried whether the Secretariat was asking the Committee to recommend that a mechanism be set up in the Fifth Committee to review exceptions on a case-by-case basis. It was agreed instead that a gentle reminder that all matters relating to conference management, including documentation, fell within the purview of the Fifth Committee, would suffice.

48. Committee members welcomed the efforts to establish mechanisms of transparency and to solicit feedback on client satisfaction but felt that much more should be done in that regard. Most of the mechanisms mentioned in the report were internal and went no further than a committee secretariat. Since the key performance indicator was the satisfaction of Member States with the services provided, it was crucial that the Secretariat take a proactive approach towards evaluating the feedback of Member States on the quality of conference services, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/236 B. It was suggested that if the many comments on document availability voiced in the various intergovernmental bodies were compiled, tabulated and analysed, the Secretariat would receive a clearer picture of the views of Member States. The website was another means of receiving feedback that could be more thoroughly utilized.

B. Provision of summary records

Introduction and overview

49. At its 479th meeting, on 13 September, the Committee considered the section of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences concerning the provision of summary records (A/61/129, paras. 73-80). In an effort to address the concerns of Member States, the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management had initiated a project at Headquarters to clear the backlog of summary

records. It had succeeded in issuing records of all meetings held back to 2003 and had tackled the backlog relating to 2002 and earlier, as capacity had become available. In addition, a pilot project had been undertaken during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly to issue all summary records of the regular session within three months of its close, a target that had been successfully met. In 2005, the English Translation Service had drafted all summary records.

50. The Secretariat was exploring the practical and financial implications of the various approaches proposed to the provision of summary records, which included replacing summary records with digital recordings, reducing the number of bodies entitled to summary records, concentrating précis-writing in the English Translation Service, restricting the length of summary records to 5,000 words and eliminating the publication and distribution of summary records.

Discussion

51. The Committee commended the progress made in clearing the backlog of summary records and in the timely issuance of the records of the sixtieth session of the General Assembly. Some delegations expressed concern that concentrating the drafting of summary records in the English Translation Service could adversely affect linguistic parity, however. A status report was also requested on investigation of the possibility of replacing summary records with digital recordings of meetings.

52. A representative of the Secretariat said that the pilot project to concentrate drafting of summary records in the English Translation Service was a pragmatic response to the need to speed up issuance of records and in no way represented unequal treatment of one official language. All records were translated into all official languages before being issued. The possibility of producing digital recordings of meetings, currently in use in some other international organizations, was still being explored. A summary record represented added value, as a succinct record of a meeting that contained all decisions and actions taken. On the other hand, the cost of digital or DVD recordings could be significantly lower. It was for Member States, as the primary users of meeting records, to decide what product was most useful to them.

Chapter V
Translation and interpretation-related matters

Introduction and overview

53. At its 478th and 479th meetings, on 13 September 2006, the Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences, section V, concerning translation and interpretation-related matters (see A/61/129, paras. 68-69, "Workload standards"; paras. 70-72, "Self-revision"; and paras. 81-86, "Quality of language services and qualified language staff"). In introducing the report, the Under-Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management drew particular attention to the statement of the executive session of the 2006 International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publications (IAMLADP), held in Vienna in June 2006, which had expressed concern that conference and language professionals possessing the high level of expertise and experience required by international organizations were in short supply on the commercial market and had concluded that investment in the training of language professionals should be accorded high priority.

54. Representatives of conference services at the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi participated via videoconference in the 478th meeting of the Committee, and discussed the theme of quality of services and client satisfaction.

Nairobi

55. The Chief of Conference Services at Nairobi said that, since the United Nations Office at Nairobi was dependent for roughly 50 per cent of its funding on extrabudgetary resources, conference services there had a different modus operandi and a different approach to quality than the other duty stations. The extrabudgetary clients could stipulate the level of service they wanted and often, for reasons of cost or speed, chose to do without editing and revision. They might also request documentation to be issued later than six weeks prior to publication in order to be able to incorporate the most up-to-date information.

56. It should be recognized that quality came at a cost. The Office outsourced 30 per cent of its work, and there was no doubt that outsourcing had an impact on quality, since it was rarely possible to revise the work in-house; at most, it could be spot-checked for format and certain terminology. Nevertheless, the Office usually worked with the same freelance translators, who were experienced in the environmental subject areas the Office dealt with.

57. While local freelance translators were available, there were very few qualified local freelance interpreters. For major sessions it was necessary to borrow interpreters from other duty stations, although interpreters in Nairobi, who met the global standards of the Organization, often worked at other duty stations during slow periods at home. The Office lacked professional-level editing staff, but had high-level General Services text-processing staff who were also involved in proofreading, building databases and referencing. In order to improve quality, there was a great need for a training facility in Africa, like the one that had been operated from 1978 to 1984 at the Economic Commission for Africa, to train translators and interpreters in international conference work. That need had been recognized by representatives of the European Commission at the IAMLADP meeting, and help

from the European institutions might be forthcoming in setting up such a facility again at some location in Africa.

58. With regard to client satisfaction, the United Nations Office at Nairobi had the best possible proof in that its extrabudgetary clients, who were not obliged to use its services, continued to come back. In addition, it used post-session surveys, but found that the results tended to be slanted by the successful or unsuccessful outcome of the meetings, extraneous to conference services. Nairobi therefore had a practice of contacting the secretariats of its client bodies directly and had heard no complaints about conference services other than those regarding the physical limitations of the Nairobi facilities. It also made a practice of meeting directly with the States members of its main client organizations. Indeed, because of its charge-back system, Nairobi had become a flexible, client-oriented organization.

Geneva

59. The Director of Conference Services in Geneva said that some of the mechanisms used in Geneva to measure client satisfaction included meetings of the Director-General with regional groups, information meetings held twice a year between conference services and the missions, client satisfaction surveys and a thanks and complaints file in which all such letters were compiled for analysis. Conference services in Geneva found it indispensable to maintain an ongoing dialogue with clients and therefore had nearly monthly meetings with its most regular clients, such as the Human Rights Council, the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. Outsourcing was done with client agreement.

Vienna

60. The Chief of Conference Services in Vienna said that quality was an essential feature of the products and services provided to clients, covering such factors as accuracy, readability, consistency, suitability for the end purpose and uniformity across languages. A matrix of criteria determined the risk that could arise if the quality of a product was not adequate, including its political, diplomatic and legal importance and sensitivity, its intended circulation and the lifetime the document was expected to have, especially if it was placed on the Internet. There were indeed different levels of quality, generally described in such terms as poor, good, high, excellent, and so on, yet it was hard to imagine a client or user who would be willing to accept a "poor" level of quality. Conference Services and the client must come to an agreement on compromises regarding the level of quality in return for speed. He noted, however, that clients tended not to notice or appreciate quality until there was a deterioration. It must also be acknowledged that quality came at a cost: revision was one of the best ways of ensuring the quality of translation and reducing errors, but it was costly and time-consuming.

61. However, more went into quality than revision. Since the quality of the manuscripts submitted by author departments had such a strong impact on the quality and cost of documents and their timely issuance, Conference Services in Vienna, with the support of Headquarters in New York, was implementing a pilot editorial outreach project, which would include a help desk to provide online or phone support to authors, an online course for report writers and a template that drafters would be asked to use when starting a new report. Other practices aimed at

improving quality involved drafting and consistency groups comprising translators, delegations and experts and pre and post-session discussions with the secretariats of the calendar bodies, with the participation of translators and interpreters, to review terminology and other language quality issues.

62. Since it was planning a strong increase in outsourcing, Vienna aimed to maintain a core staff able to ensure the quality of external translations and to reclassify a post in each language section as a P-5 senior reviser responsible for quality control and the training of external translators, while a P-4 post in all languages would be responsible for information technology and computer-assisted translation tools in addition to translation duties.

63. With regard to interpretation, Vienna had only 20 interpreters and was obliged to hire an equal number of freelancers if more than one set of meetings was being held at a time. The utilization rate was nearly 90 per cent. Recruitment of non-local freelance interpreters was frequent, since few qualified interpreters were available locally. While there were no complaints about the regular interpreters, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which used roughly 40 per cent of the interpretation services, had raised the issue of interpretation quality in relation to freelancers. In general, the subject matter dealt with in Vienna was highly technical and on-the-job training was necessary for high quality. An additional 10 interpretation posts would go far to alleviate the situation.

64. The client was the final judge of the usefulness of the product but was not always in a position to judge the accuracy of a translation or interpretation. Consequently, client surveys provided only a partial indication of quality, especially since the response to surveys was typically poor. Since shorter surveys yielded a greater response, Vienna had simplified the survey prepared in New York; it planned to put a basic questionnaire on document quality on every copy distributed in the conference rooms and to develop a similar pop-up window for the website that provided access to documents issued in Vienna.

Discussion

Nairobi

65. The Committee welcomed the reduction in the vacancy rate in interpretation posts but expressed concern about the persisting difficulty in filling Arabic interpretation posts and the slow process of filling the newly created P-3 information technology post. Delegations queried the reasons for departures from the six-week document issuance rule but were assured that it responded to client requests. A number of members encouraged Nairobi to quantify what resources or conversions of posts to regular budget would be needed to increase quality.

66. With regard to the information technology post, the Committee was told that in the absence of qualified internal or external candidates, Nairobi was canvassing other duty stations to see if a qualified person could be loaned for one or two years. The representative of Conference Services in Nairobi, on request, promised to supply a list of the main clients and the proportion of services they received. With regard to the difficulties of filling interpretation vacancies, he explained that the post structure in Nairobi, which did not provide opportunities for advancement, was a factor and that the low utilization rate for interpreters, which meant that they had to travel frequently, was another deterrent to recruitment. The rate could not easily

be increased, since Nairobi had reached its physical meetings capacity limit. Nairobi had benefited from an increase in its regular budget in real terms in the past few years, but extrabudgetary funding had also increased, so that it still represented half of funding.

Geneva

67. In response to questions, the representative of Conference Services in Geneva said that the overall level of client satisfaction with conference services in Geneva was good. It was true that as the Human Rights Council struggled to establish its modus operandi it was requesting many after-hours and weekend meetings and last-minute documents, straining the normal system, but difficulties would eventually be smoothed out. Thanks to the intervention of the then Assistant Secretary-General for General Assembly and Conference Management, many issues had been resolved with the Joint Inspection Unit, which had reduced the number of requested waivers.

Vienna

68. Interest was expressed in the editorial outreach project, which, once developed, could be used by other duty stations. It was questioned whether the proposed translation post structure would be adequate to ensure the quality of external translations. It was noted that in the hiring of temporary staff on the local market, the different languages were not treated equally, but it was explained that the availability of local qualified freelancers differed from language to language. Concern was expressed about the inconsistency of quality in interpretation in relation to the use of freelancers. Questions were raised about the possibility of the participation of IAEA in finding funding for new interpretation posts. In response to questions, the representative of Conference Services in Vienna outlined some of the information technology applications that were being developed in Vienna, including management reporting, meetings planning and servicing and documentation processing systems; Vienna was currently using e-Meets instead of the older Documents Control and Productivity Monitoring System (DCPMS) module, and the Vienna-developed e-APG system for interpreter assignments would be used at all other duty stations.

General discussion

69. The view was expressed that the success of intergovernmental negotiations often depended on the quality of the translation and interpretation into all six official languages. However, quality was predicated on the provision to all the language services of equally favourable working conditions. There appeared to be inequality in particular from service to service in the recruitment of local and non-local temporary assistance. The practice of recruiting short-term language staff for certain language services on a local basis, regardless of their actual domicile, for the sake of financial savings, represented unequal treatment and could compromise the quality of conference services.

70. Concern was expressed about the shortage in qualified language staff that could result from the demographic changes in the language services combined with the decline in the number of applicants for United Nations language examinations in recent years, and the need for a plan to deal with the problem was stressed. On learning that the Under-Secretary-General was planning to accompany

representatives of the European Commission on a visit to some universities in the United States of America in an attempt to reverse the apparent decline in interest in language study, delegations expressed support for outreach to universities to promote the training of language professionals in all countries where United Nations official languages were used. It was suggested that the experience of the centre set up by the Government of the Russian Federation to train translators and interpreters for international conference work could be helpful to others. The representative of the Secretariat assured the Committee that outreach efforts would encompass all official languages and noted that candidates trained at the Moscow centre had demonstrated excellent professional skills in the recent language examinations.

71. In response to questions about why recent language examinations had not resolved the vacancy situation, a representative of the Secretariat said that not only were there fewer applicants but that they had also displayed an observable decline in writing skills. The Office of Human Resources Management had capacity to organize only a certain number of examinations per year. Perhaps the time was coming to ask the General Assembly for a different pattern of exams. Although some unusual measures, such as offering retirees a chance to be rehired if they were willing to forego pension benefits, were being contemplated to meet the anticipated shortage, in general it was the policy of the Organization to minimize any extensions after retirement age. With regard to mobility, the Secretariat believed that the mobility policy in its full version would be impractical for the language services, owing in part, as Committee members had pointed out, to the special skills and knowledge needed in certain places. The Department had put forward positive proposals to involve language staff in mobility as much as possible without disrupting service at the duty stations.

72. Several duty stations expressed concerns that the low quality of manuscripts submitted by author departments complicated the work of translators and revisers. Delegations noted that the appropriate accountability tools and quality controls should be secured in order to improve the situation.

73. In response to requests for clarification about the comprehensive methodology for performance measurement and management from a full-system perspective, mentioned in paragraph 69 of the report of the Secretary-General on pattern of conferences (A/61/129), a representative of the Secretariat explained that the Department was attempting to replace a one-dimensional approach to performance measurement by developing an array of indicators on timeliness, quality, financial performance and client satisfaction. In response to questions about follow-up to complaints, he said that verified mistakes were brought to the attention of the translator or interpreter concerned with the intention that it should be a learning experience.

74. A concern was raised about a statement made during a language-specific meeting that the opinions of the chiefs of booth in the interpretation services concerning the quality of the work of the staff were frequently ignored. The assurance was given that the assessment of the chief of booth was taken very seriously in determining the qualifications of temporary staff.

Annex I

Draft resolution

The Committee on Conferences recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution: Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 51/211 A to E of 18 December 1996, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 A to E of 18 December 1998, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/262 of 15 February 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002, 57/283 A of 20 December 2000, 57/283 B of 15 April 2003, 58/250 of 23 December 2003, 59/265 of 23 December 2004, 60/236 A of 23 December 2005 and 60/236 B of 8 May 2006,

Reaffirming its resolution 42/207 C of 11 December 1987, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the equal treatment of the official languages of the United Nations,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences[a] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[b]

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[c]

Reaffirming the provisions relevant to conference services of its resolutions on multilingualism,

I.
Calendar of conferences and meetings

1. *Approves* the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2007, as submitted by the Committee on Conferences,[d] taking into account the observations of the Committee and subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2007 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its sixty-first session;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretariat has taken into account the arrangements referred to in General Assembly resolutions 53/208 A, 54/248, 55/222, 56/242, 57/283 B, 58/250, 59/265 and 60/236 A concerning Orthodox Good Friday

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[a] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/61/32).
[b] A/61/129 and Add.1 and A/61/300.
[c] A/60/433.
[d] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/61/32), annex II.

and the official holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, and requests all intergovernmental bodies to observe those decisions when planning their meetings;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings is implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

II.

A. Utilization of conference-servicing resources

1. *Reaffirms* the practice that, in the use of conference rooms, priority must be given to the meetings of Member States;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that the overall utilization factor at the four main duty stations increased to 85 per cent in 2005 from 83 per cent in 2004;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by those bodies that have adjusted their programmes of work in order to achieve the optimum utilization of conference-servicing resources, and requests the Committee on Conferences to continue consultations with the secretariats and bureaux of bodies that underutilize their conference-servicing resources;

4. *Recognizes* the importance of meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States for the smooth functioning of the sessions of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that, as far as possible, all requests for conference services for meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States are met;

5. *Notes with concern* the difficulties experienced by Member States owing to the lack of conference services for some meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

6. *Also notes with concern* that, although the percentage of meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States that were provided with interpretation services in the four main duty stations in 2005 increased to 87 per cent, as compared with 85 per cent in 2004, the figure is still below the 98 per cent provided with services from May 2001 to April 2002, 92 per cent from May 2002 to April 2003 and 90 per cent from May 2003 to April 2004;

7. *Recalls* that meetings held by regional and other major groupings of Member States have so far been provided with interpretation services on an ad hoc basis, in accordance with established practice;

8. *Once again urges* intergovernmental bodies to spare no effort at the planning stage to take into account the meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States, to make provision for such meetings in their programmes of work and to notify conference services, well in advance, of any cancellations so that unutilized conference-servicing resources may, to the extent possible, be reassigned to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with several General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 60/236 B, section II.A, paragraph 10, in conformity with the headquarters rule, all meetings of Nairobi-based United Nations

bodies took place in Nairobi in 2005, but reiterates the need for vigilance in this respect, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the Assembly at its sixty-second session through the Committee on Conferences;

10. *Welcomes* the facts that international and local corporations and academic institutions are being allowed to host events at the Economic Commission for Africa conference centre after screening, on a case-by-case basis, by the United Nations Security and Safety Service to ensure compliance with the United Nations headquarters minimum security standards, which is likely to contribute to increasing the utilization of the centre;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken to increase utilization of the conference facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa and to align the methodology used to compile utilization statistics with that of Conference Services at the four main duty stations, including building on the cooperative agreement the Commission established with the Division of Conference Services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue efforts to ensure that the Economic Commission for Africa strengthens linkages with other centres and bodies;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore means to increase the utilization of the conference centre of the Economic Commission for Africa, bearing in mind the headquarters minimum operating security standards, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session through the Committee on Conferences;

B. Impact on meetings held at Headquarters during the implementation of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach)

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of the capital master plan on meetings to be held at Headquarters during its implementation;[c]

2. *Requests* calendar bodies, when planning their meetings, especially major or high-level conferences, summits and special meetings, United Nations Charter organs, their subsidiary bodies and other intergovernmental organizations and treaty bodies that normally meet at Headquarters, to take into consideration the limitations and inflexibility of the entire conference facilities at Headquarters throughout the renovation period;

3. *Notes in particular* that there will be noise during the construction period which will take place in the evenings and on weekends;

4. *Requests* all meeting requesters and organizers to liaise closely with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat on all matters related to the scheduling of meetings to allow maximum predictability in coordinating the Headquarters activities during the construction work;

5. *Requests* the Committee on Conferences to keep the matter under constant review, and requests the Secretary-General to report regularly to the

[c] A/61/300.

Committee on matters pertaining to the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations during the construction period;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that implementation of the capital master plan will not compromise the quality of conference services provided to Member States and the equal treatment of the language services, which should be provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to receiving maximum quality of services;

III.
Integrated global management

1. *Notes with appreciation* the progress achieved across duty stations in integrating information technology into meetings management and documentation-processing systems and the global approach to sharing standards, good practices and technological achievements among conference services at all duty stations;

2. *Welcomes* the establishment of a regular budget technology post at the United Nations Office at Nairobi and other efforts there to share best practices, which are essential for the successful achievement of integrated global management;

3. *Reaffirms* that the major goals of the reform of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management are to provide high-quality documents in a timely manner in all official languages, as well as high-quality conference services to Member States at all duty stations, and to achieve those aims as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the compatibility of technologies used in all duty stations and to ensure that they are user-friendly in all official languages;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to complete the task of uploading all important older United Nations documents onto the United Nations website in all six official languages on a priority basis, so that these archives are also available to Member States through that medium;

6. *Recalls* section II.B, paragraph 4, of its resolution 60/236 B, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that measures taken by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to seek the evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them as a key performance indicator of the Department provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluation in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Assembly, through the Committee on Conferences, on progress made in this regard;

7. *Also recalls* section II.B, paragraph 6, of its resolution 60/236 B, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session, through the Committee on Conferences, on both the results of the work of the task forces and the outcome of the ongoing consultations among United Nations duty stations on a follow-up to the recommendations of the task forces;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly apprised of progress made in integrated global management;

IV.

Documentation and publication-related matters

1. *Emphasizes* the paramount importance of the equality of the six official languages of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative, budgetary and conference management matters;

3. *Notes with concern* the continued high level of late submissions of documentation by author departments, which, in turn, negatively impact the functioning of intergovernmental bodies, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its sixty-second session, through the Committee on Conferences, on impediments, if any, to achieving full compliance with the ten-week and six-week rules for the issuance of pre-session documents, including, where appropriate, proposed measures to address such impediments;

4. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the rules concerning the simultaneous distribution of documents in all official languages are followed with respect to both the distribution of printed copies and the posting of parliamentary documentation on the Official Document System and the United Nations website, in keeping with section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 55/222;

5. *Reaffirms* its decision in section III, paragraph 9, of its resolution 59/265, that the issuance of documents on planning, budgetary and administrative matters requiring urgent consideration by the General Assembly shall be accorded priority;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to direct all departments of the Secretariat to include the following elements in their reports:

(a) Summary of the report;

(b) Consolidated conclusions, recommendations and other proposed actions;

(c) Relevant background information;

7. *Encourages* intergovernmental and expert bodies to include the above-mentioned elements, where appropriate, in their reports to the General Assembly;

8. *Reiterates its request* that all documents submitted to legislative organs by the Secretariat, intergovernmental and expert bodies for consideration and action have conclusions and recommendations in bold print;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take steps to improve the quality and accuracy of meeting records in all six official languages through full reliance in the preparation and translation of those records on sound recordings and written texts of statements as they were delivered in the original languages;

10. *Notes* the efforts of the Secretariat to clear the backlog in the issuance of summary records, while noting with concern that some delays in issuance still occur;

11. *Notes* the options enumerated in paragraphs 76 to 80 of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

[1] A/61/129.

V.
Translation and interpretation-related matters

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure the highest quality of interpretation and translation services in all official languages;

2. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make sure that terminology used in translation and interpretation services reflects the latest linguistic norms and terminology of the official languages in order to ensure the highest quality;

3. *Also reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, when recruiting temporary assistance in the language services, to ensure that all language services are given equal treatment and are provided with equally favourable working conditions and resources, with a view to achieving maximum quality of their services, with full respect for the specificities of the six official languages and taking into account their respective workloads;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the accuracy of translation of documents into the official languages, giving particular significance to the quality of translation;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek evaluation by Member States of the quality of the conference services provided to them, including through the language-specific informational meetings held twice a year, and to ensure that such measures provide equal opportunities to Member States to present their evaluation in the six official languages of the United Nations and are in full compliance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

6. *Notes* the efforts made so far to improve the rates of self-revision, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to address the question of the appropriate level of self-revision that is consistent with quality in all official languages and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session;

7. *Notes* the proposal on workload standards to develop a comprehensive methodology for performance measurement and management from a full-system perspective,[8] and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly periodically, starting at its sixty-second session, on the specific indicators proposed under the headings of timeliness, quality, financial performance and organizational learning and growth;

8. *Expresses continued concern* at the high vacancy rate in the interpretation and translation services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, especially the chronic difficulty in staffing the Arabic Interpretation Unit, and requests the Secretary-General to address this through, inter alia, assistance from Member States in advertising and facilitating the conduct of competitive examinations to fill these language vacancies;

9. *Notes with concern* the high reliance on freelance interpretation at the United Nations Office at Vienna, and requests the Secretary-General to report on any inconsistency in quality of interpretation services related thereto, including at other duty stations, and on measures to address that issue, if needed, to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session through the Committee on Conferences;

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[8] Ibid., para. 69.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide at all United Nations duty stations the adequate staff and grade level with a view to ensuring appropriate quality control for external translations;

11. *Notes* the Secretary-General's plans to address the issue of succession planning by enhancing internal and external training programmes, developing staff exchange programmes between organizations and participating in outreach activities to institutions that train language staff for international organizations;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to hold competitive examinations for the recruitment of language staff sufficiently in advance so as to fill current and future vacancies in language services in a timely manner, and to inform the General Assembly at its sixty-second session of efforts in this regard.

Annex II

Draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations and of the principal organs of the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and treaty bodies established under the auspices of the United Nations for 2007

In the column headed "Organ"

The following abbreviations are used in the present annex:

ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INSTRAW	International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund

UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
UNU	United Nations University
UPU	Universal Postal Union
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

In the column headed "Membership"

G	Governments
E	Experts
ST	Secretariat or secretariats

In the column headed "Servicing"

I	Interpretation
T	Translation
PV	Verbatim records
SR	Summary records
A	Arabic
C	Chinese
E	English
F	French
R	Russian
S	Spanish

A. Draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations, 2007

(as at 31 July 2006)

	Organ	*Dates (2007)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]			*Periodicity*
1.	Military Staff Committee [Charter]	12 January, once every fortnight thereafter	New York	5 G	I (CEFR)	T	PV	Every second Friday
2.	UNICEF, Executive Board, first regular session [General Assembly resolutions 48/162 and 57 (I)]	15-18 January	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
3.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, thirty-seventh session [General Assembly resolutions 34/180 and 60/230][b]	15 January-2 February	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
4.	Economic and Social Council, election of Bureau [Charter]	17 January	New York	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	
5.	Joint Meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP [General Assembly resolution 52/12 B]	19 and 22 January	New York	36 G/36 G/36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
6.	Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, regular session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1296 (XLIV) and decisions 1995/304 and 1997/297]	22 January-2 February	New York	19 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
7.	UNDP and UNFPA, Executive Board, first regular session [General Assembly resolutions 2029 (XX) and 48/162]	23-26 January	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
8.	International Narcotics Control Board, eighty-eighth session [Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, article 11][b]	29 January-2 February	Vienna	13 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
9.	Committee on the Rights of the Child, forty-fourth session [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211][b]	January (3 weeks)	Geneva	18 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
10.	Committee on the Rights of the Child, pre-sessional working group [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211][b]	January (1 week)	Geneva	18 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
11.	Consultative Committee on the United Nations Development Fund for Women, forty-seventh session [General Assembly resolutions 31/133 and 39/125]	January	New York	5 G	—	—	—	One session per year
12.	UNCTAD, Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167][c]	January	Geneva		I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
13.	United Nations Staff Pension Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	January/February (1 meeting)	New York	12 E	—	—	—	Three sessions of one meeting each per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
14.	Conference on Disarmament, first part [General Assembly resolutions 1722 (XVI), S-10/2 and 34/83 L]	January-March (8 weeks)	Geneva	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session in three parts per year
15.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol to the Convention [General Assembly resolution 55/70][b]	5-9 February	New York	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
16.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, pre-sessional working group [General Assembly resolutions 45/123, 47/94 and 60/230][b]	5-9 February	New York	4 E	I (EFS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
17.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Arbitration [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	5-9 February	New York	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
18.	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Situations [Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/41 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	5-9 February	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	One session per year
19.	UNEP, Governing Council, twenty-fourth session [General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII) and 42/185]	5-9 February	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
20.	Economic and Social Council, organizational session [Charter]	6-9 February	New York	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
21	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [General Assembly resolution 173 (II)]	6 February-27 April	New York	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
22.	Commission for Social Development, forty-fifth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 10 (II), 1139 (XLI) and 1996/7]	7-16 February	New York	46 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
23.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Security Interests [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	12-16 February	New York	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
24.	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, forty-fourth session [General Assembly resolution 1472 A (XIV)]	12-23 February	Vienna	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
25.	ECE, sixty-second session [Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV)]	19-23 February	Geneva	55 G	I (EFR)	T	—	One session per year
26.	WFP, Executive Board, first regular session [Economic and Social Council decision 1995/227 and General Assembly resolution 50/8][d]	19-23 February	Rome	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
27.	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, seventieth session [General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX)][b]	19 February-9 March	Geneva	18 E	I (CEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
28.	Eleventh Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child [General Assembly resolution 44/25][b]	21 February	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session every two years
29.	Intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the fifteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development [Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/61]	26 February-2 March	New York	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
30.	Commission on the Status of Women, fifty-first session [Economic and Social Council decision 1999/257]	26 February-9 March	New York	45 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
31.	Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group, substantive session [General Assembly resolution 48/42]	26 February-16 March	New York	119 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
32.	Statistical Commission, thirty-eighth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/8]	27 February-2 March	New York	24 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
33.	Investments Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	February	New York	11-12 E	—	—	—	Four or five meetings per year
34.	UNCTAD, Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	February	Geneva	[c]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
35.	UNCTAD, Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	February	Geneva	[c]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
36.	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, Board of Trustees [General Assembly resolution 40/131]	February/March (1 week)	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	One session per year
37.	Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI)]	February/March	New York	27 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR[d]	
38.	Human Rights Committee, Working Group on Communications [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)][b]	5-9 March	New York	9 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
39.	United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Board of Trustees [General Assembly resolution 46/122]	5-9 March	Geneva	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
40.	Human Rights Committee, eighty-ninth session [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)][b]	12-30 March	New York	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
41.	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, fiftieth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 9 (I) and 1991/39]	13-22 March	Vienna	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
42.	Committee of the Whole of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs [Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/39]	13-22 March (4 days)	Vienna	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
43.	Committee for Development Policy, ninth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/46]	19-23 March	New York	24 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
44.	Group of governmental experts on illicit brokering in small arms [General Assembly resolution 59/86]	19-23 March	New York	25 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
45.	ICSC, sixty-fourth session [General Assembly resolution 3357 (XXIX)]	19-30 March	To be determined	15 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
46.	Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf [annex II, article 2 (5), of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea][b]	26-30 March	New York	21 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
47.	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Legal Subcommittee, forty-sixth session [General Assembly resolution 1472 (XIV)]	26 March-5 April	Vienna	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR[c]	One session per year
48.	General Assembly, Fifth Committee, resumed session [Charter]	March (4 weeks)	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
49.	UNCTAD, Working Party on the medium-term plan and the programme budget [UNCTAD resolution 114 (V) and Trade and Development Board decision 156 (XVII)]	March (1 week)	Geneva		I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
50.	Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters [General Assembly resolution 37/99 K]	March (3 days)	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
51.	UNITAR, Board of Trustees, forty-fifth session, first part [General Assembly resolutions 1934 (XVIII) and 47/227][d]	March (2-3 days)	Geneva	28 E	I (AEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
52.	UNEP, Committee of Permanent Representatives [Governing Council decision 13/2]	March	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Four sessions per year
53.	Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat [General Assembly resolution 56/206]	March	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Four meetings per year
54.	Security Council, Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission established pursuant to Security Council resolution 692 (1991), sixty-third session[d]	March	Geneva	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Four sessions per year
55.	Committee for the United Nations Population Award [General Assembly resolution 36/201]	March/April (2 days)	New York	10 G	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
56.	United Nations Staff Pension Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	March/April (1 meeting)	New York	12 E	—	—	—	Three sessions of one meeting each per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
57.	Commission on Population and Development, fortieth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 150 (VII), 87 (LVII) and 1995/55]	9-13 April	New York	47 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
58.	Committee of Experts on Public Administration [Economic and Social Council resolutions 2001/45 and 2003/60]	9-13 April	New York	24 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
59.	Disarmament Commission [General Assembly resolution S-10/2]	9-27 April	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session per year
60.	United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, Board of Trustees, twenty-sixth session [General Assembly resolution 36/151]	16-20 April	Geneva	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
61.	Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, twenty-first session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1978/1 and General Assembly resolution 56/206]	16-20 April	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
62.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Transport Law [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	16-27 April	New York	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
63.	United Nations Forum on Forests [Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/29]	16-27 April	New York	195 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
64.	Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, sixteenth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/1]	17-26 April	Vienna	40 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
65.	Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, parallel meetings for informal consultations and working groups [Economic and Social Council decision 1997/232]	17-26 April (12 meetings)	Vienna	40 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
66.	Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families [General Assembly resolution 45/158][b]	23-27 April	Geneva	10 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
67.	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, thirty-eighth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/33, 1985/17 and 1995/39][b]	23 April-11 May	Geneva	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
68.	Economic and Social Council, resumed organizational session [Charter]	25-26 April	New York	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	
69.	Committee on Information, twenty-ninth session [General Assembly resolution 33/115 C]	30 April-11 May	New York	110 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
70.	Commission on Sustainable Development, fifteenth session [Economic and Social Council decisions 1993/207 and 2005/228]	30 April-11 May	New York	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
71.	Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, first session [General Assembly resolution 55/33 D][b]	30 April-11 May	New York	189 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
72.	Committee against Torture, thirty-eighth session [General Assembly resolution 39/46 A][b]	April/May (3 weeks)	Geneva	10 E	I (EFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
73.	Committee against Torture, pre-sessional working group [General Assembly resolution 56/44][b]	April/May (1 week)	Geneva	4 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	
74.	ESCAP, sixty-third session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 37 (IV), 69 (V) and 723 B (XXVIII)]	April (7 days)	Bangkok	52 G	I (CEFR)	T	—	One session per year
75.	Special high-level meetings of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and UNCTAD [General Assembly resolution 50/227 and Economic and Social Council decision 2005/211]	April (1 day)	New York	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR[c]	
76.	United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, first regular session [Economic and Social Council decision 2001/321]	April/May	Geneva	26 ST	I (EF)	T	—	Two sessions per year
77.	International Narcotics Control Board, eighty-ninth session [Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, article 11][b]	7-18 May	Vienna	13 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
78.	UNFCCC, meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention [General Assembly decision 60/197][b]	7-18 May	Bonn	189 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
79.	Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, resumed session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 3 (II) and 1296 (XLIV) and decisions 1995/304 and 1997/297]	14-18 May	New York	19 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
80.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Insolvency Law [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	14-18 May	New York	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
81.	Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues [Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/22]	14-25 May	New York	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
82.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, thirty-eighth session [General Assembly resolutions 34/180 and 60/230][b]	14 May-1 June	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
83.	Committee on the Rights of the Child, forty-fifth session [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211][b]	14 May-1 June	Geneva	18 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
84.	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [General Assembly resolution 173 (II)]	15 May-27 July	New York	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
85.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Procurement [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	21-25 May	New York	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
86.	Commission on Science and Technology for Development, tenth session [General Assembly resolution 46/235 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/37 and decision 2003/291]	21-25 May	Geneva	33 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
87.	United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, fifty-fifth session [General Assembly resolution 913 (X)]	21 May-1 June	Vienna	21 G	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
88.	Human Rights Council, Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Working Group on Minorities [Economic and Social Council resolution 1998/246 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	28 May-1 June	Geneva	5 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
89.	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, pre-sessional working group [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/33, 1985/17 and 1995/39][b]	28 May-1 June	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
90.	High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, fifteenth session [General Assembly resolutions 33/134 and 58/220]	29 May-1 June	New York	195 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
91.	General Assembly, Fifth Committee, resumed session [Charter]	May (4 weeks)	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	
92.	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances [Economic and Social Council decision 2004/260 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	May (2 weeks)	Geneva	5 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
93.	Regional seminar to review the situation in Non-Self-Governing Territories under the Second Decade on the Eradication of Colonialism [General Assembly resolution 55/147]	May (3 days)	To be determined	To be determined	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
94.	Committee for Programme and Coordination, organizational session [Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 31/93]	May (1 day)	New York	34 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
95.	Investments Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	May	New York	11-12 E	–	—	—	Four or five meetings per year
96.	ECA, Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, twenty-fourth meeting [Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV)]	May	Addis Ababa	53 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
97.	ECA, Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, thirty-eighth session of the Commission [Economic and Social Council resolution 671 (XXV)]	May	Addis Ababa	53 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session per year
98.	Conference on Disarmament, second part [General Assembly resolutions 1722 (XVI), S-10/2 and 34/83 L]	May/June (7 weeks)	Geneva	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session in three parts per year
99.	International Law Commission, fifty-ninth session [General Assembly resolution 174 (II)]	May/June (5 weeks)	Geneva	34 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
100.	United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, Committee of Actuaries [General Assembly resolution 1561 (XV), article XXIX]	4-6 June	New York	5 E	—	T	—	One session per year
101.	UNICEF, Executive Board, annual session [General Assembly resolutions 57 (I) and 48/162]	4-8 June	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
102.	Group of governmental experts on illicit brokering in small arms [General Assembly resolution 59/86]	4-8 June	New York	25 E	I (ACEFRS)	T		
103.	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, Board of Trustees [Economic and Social Council decision 1993/283]	4-8 June	Geneva	5 E	I (EF)	T	—	Two sessions per year
104.	Committee on the Rights of the Child, pre-sessional working group [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211][b]	4-8 June	Geneva	18 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
105.	WFP, Executive Board, annual session [Economic and Social Council decision 1995/227 and General Assembly resolution 50/8][d]	4-8 June	Rome	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
106.	Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, fiftieth session [General Assembly resolution 1472 A (XIV)]	6-15 June	Vienna	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV[f]	One session per year
107.	Panel of governmental experts on missiles, first session [General Assembly resolution 59/67]	11-15 June	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
108.	Human Rights Council, Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery [Economic and Social Council decision 16 (LVI) 246 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	11-15 June	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	One session per year
109.	UNDP and UNFPA, Executive Board, annual session [General Assembly resolutions 2029 (XX) and 48/162]	11-22 June	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
110.	Committee on Contributions, sixty-seventh session [General Assembly resolution 14 (I) A]	11-29 June	New York	18 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
111.	Committee for Programme and Coordination, forty-seventh session [Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) and General Assembly resolution 31/93]	11 June-6 July	New York	34 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
112.	Meeting of persons chairing human rights treaty bodies [General Assembly resolutions 46/111 and 49/178][b]	18-22 June	Geneva	8 E	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
113.	Meeting of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea [General Assembly resolutions 37/66 and 49/28][b]	18-29 June	New York	138 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year
114.	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, fortieth session [General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI)]	18 June-13 July	Vienna	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
115.	United Nations Board of Auditors [General Assembly resolution 74 (I)]	28-29 June	New York	3 E	I (EF)	—	—	One session per year
116.	Security Council, Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission established pursuant to Security Council resolution 692 (1991), sixty-fourth session[d]	June	Geneva	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Four sessions per year
117.	Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat [General Assembly resolution 56/206]	June	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Four meetings per year
118.	Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI)]	June/July (6-8 meetings per week, up to 30 meetings)	New York	27 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR[c]	
119.	Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters [General Assembly resolution 37/99 K]	June/July (3-4 days)	New York	20 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
120.	UNEP, Committee of Permanent Representatives [Governing Council decision 13/2]	June/July (1 day)	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Four sessions per year
121.	United Nations Administrative Tribunal [General Assembly resolution 351 A (IV)]	June/July	Geneva	7 E	I (EF)	T	PV[e]	Two sessions per year
122.	Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea [General Assembly resolution 60/30]	2-6 July	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
123.	Human Rights Committee, Working Group on Communications [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)][b]	2-6 July	Geneva	9 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
124.	Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/104 and 1999/65]	2-11 July	Geneva	23 G	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year
125.	Economic and Social Council, substantive session [Charter]	2-27 July	Geneva	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
126.	United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, Standing Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	9-13 July	New York	15 E	I (EF)	T	—	One session every two years
127.	Human Rights Committee, ninetieth session [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)][b]	9-27 July	Geneva	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
128.	Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/104 and 1999/65]	11-13 July	Geneva	23 G	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year
129.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, pre-sessional working group [General Assembly resolutions 45/124, 47/94 and 60/230][b]	16-20 July	New York	4 E	I (EFS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
130.	Human Rights Council, Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Working Group on Indigenous Populations [Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/34 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	16-20 July	Geneva	5 E	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
131.	ICSC, sixty-fifth session [General Assembly resolution 3357 (XXIX)]	16-27 July	New York	15 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
132.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Working Group on Communications under the Optional Protocol to the Convention [General Assembly resolution 55/70][b]	18-20 July	New York	5 E	I (EFS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
133.	Human Rights Council, Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, intersessional forum on economic, social and cultural rights (Social Forum) [Economic and Social Council decision 2003/264 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	19 and 20 July	Geneva	10 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
134.	Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, thirty-ninth session [General Assembly resolutions 34/180 and 60/230][b]	23 July-10 August	New York	23 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
135.	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, seventy-first session [General Assembly resolution 2106 A (XX)][b]	30 July-17 August	Geneva	18 E	I (CEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
136.	UNCTAD, Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	July	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
137.	International Law Commission, fifty-ninth session [General Assembly resolution 174 (II)]	July/August (5 weeks)	Geneva	34 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
138.	International Law Seminar [General Assembly resolution 49/51]	July/August (3 weeks)	Geneva	30 E	I (EFS)	—	—	One session per year
139.	Human Rights Council, Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, fifty-ninth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 9 (II) 246 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	July/August (3 weeks)	Geneva	26 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
140.	Conference on Disarmament, third part [General Assembly resolutions 1722 (XVI), S-10/2 and 34/83 L]	July/September (7 weeks)	Geneva	61 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session in three parts per year
141.	Human Rights Council, Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, Working Group on Communications [Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII) 246 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	13-24 August	Geneva	5 E	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
142.	United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, twenty-fourth session [Economic and Social Council resolution 715 A (XXVII) and 1314 (XLIV)]	20 and 31 August	New York	80 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
143.	Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names [Economic and Social Council decision 2003/294]	21-30 August	New York	195 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every five years
144.	Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf [annex II, article 2 (5), of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea][b]	27-31 August	New York	21 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
145.	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances [Economic and Social Council decision 2004/260 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	August (2 weeks)	Geneva	5 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
146.	Human Rights Council, Working Group on the Use of Mercenaries [Economic and Social Council decision 2005/255 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	August (1 week)	Geneva	5 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
147.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Procurement [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	3-7 September	Vienna	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
148.	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [General Assembly resolution 173 (II)]	4 September-21 December	New York	16 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
149.	UNICEF, Executive Board, second regular session [General Assembly resolutions 57 (I) and 48/162]	5-7 September	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
150.	UNDP and UNFPA, Executive Board, second regular session [General Assembly resolutions 2029 (XX) and 48/162]	10-14 September	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
151.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Arbitration [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	10-14 September	Vienna	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
152.	Committee on the Rights of the Child, forty-sixth session [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211][b]	10-28 September	Geneva	18 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
153.	General Assembly, sixty-second session [Charter]	18 September-December	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV/SR[c]	
154.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Security Interests [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	24-28 September	Vienna	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
155.	UNCTAD, Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget [UNCTAD resolution 114 (V) and Trade and Development Board decision 156 (XVII)]	September (1 week)	Geneva		I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
156.	Security Council, Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission established pursuant to Security Council resolution 692 (1991), sixty-fifth session[d]	September (3 days)	Geneva	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Four sessions per year
157.	UNITAR, Board of Trustees, forty-fifth session, second part [General Assembly resolutions 1934 (XVIII) and 47/227][d]	September (2-3 days)	Geneva	28 E	I (AEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
158.	UNRWA, Advisory Commission [General Assembly resolution 302 (IV)]	September (1 day)	Amman	10 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session per year
159.	Investments Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	September	New York	11-12 E	—	—	—	Four or five meetings per year
160.	Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat [General Assembly resolution 56/206]	September	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Four meetings per year
161.	UNEP, Committee of Permanent Representatives [Governing Council decision 13/2]	September/October (1 day)	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Four sessions per year
162.	United Nations Staff Pension Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	September/October (1 meeting)	New York	12 E	—	—	—	Three sessions of one meeting each per year
163.	Human Rights Committee, Working Group on Communications [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)][b]	1-5 October	Geneva	9 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
164.	Committee on the Rights of the Child, pre-sessional working group [General Assembly resolutions 44/25, 47/112 and 49/211][b]	2-5 October	Geneva	18 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Three sessions per year
165.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Transport Law [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	15-25 October	Vienna	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
166.	Human Rights Committee, ninety-first session [General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI)][b]	15 October-3 November	Geneva	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
167.	WFP, Executive Board, second regular session [Economic and Social Council decision 1995/227 and General Assembly resolution 50/8][d]	22-26 October	Rome	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
168.	International Narcotics Control Board, ninetieth session [Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, article 11][b]	30 October-16 November	Vienna	13 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two or three sessions per year
169.	UNCTAD, Trade and Development Board, fifty-fourth session [General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX) and UNCTAD resolution 114 (V)]	October (2 weeks)	Geneva	148 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
170.	UNCCD, Conference of the Parties to the Convention, eighth session, and meetings of subsidiary bodies [General Assembly resolution 60/201][b]	October (2 weeks)	Madrid	185 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
171.	UNHCR, Executive Committee, fifty-eighth session [General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII)]	October (1 week)	Geneva	70 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
172.	General Assembly, high-level dialogue on financing for development [General Assembly resolution 57/250]	October (3 days)	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session every two years
173.	United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, second regular session [Economic and Social Council decision 2001/321]	October	New York	26 ST	I (EF)	T	—	Two sessions per year
174.	United Nations Administrative Tribunal [General Assembly resolution 351 (IV)]	October/November (5 weeks)	New York	7 E	I (EF)	T	PV[g]	Two sessions per year
175.	UNFCCC, Conference of the Parties to the Convention, thirteenth session, and meetings of subsidiary bodies [General Assembly resolution 60/197][b]	5-16 November	Bonn	189 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
176.	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, thirty-ninth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/33, 1985/17 and 1995/39][b]	5-23 November	Geneva	18 E	I (AEFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
177.	Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, pre-sessional working group [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/33, 1985/17 and 1995/39][b]	26-30 November	Geneva	5 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
178.	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, resumed fiftieth session [Economic and Social Council resolutions 9 (I) and 1991/39]	28-30 November	Vienna	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
179.	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Special Meeting in Observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People [General Assembly resolutions 32/40 B and 33/28]	29 November	New York	25 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
180.	Committee against Torture, thirty-ninth session [General Assembly resolution 39/46 A][b]	November (2 or 3 weeks)	Geneva	10 E	I (EFRS)	T	SR	Two sessions per year
181.	Committee against Torture, pre-sessional working group [General Assembly resolution 56/44][b]	November (1 week)	Geneva	4 E	I (EFRS)	T	—	
182.	Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, Board of Trustees [Economic and Social Council decision 1993/283]	November (1 week)	Geneva	5 E	I (EF)	T	—	Two sessions per year
183.	Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families [General Assembly resolution 45/158][b]	November (1 week)	Geneva	10 E	I (EFS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
184.	Annual meeting of States parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects [Convention][b,d]	November (1 week)	Geneva	89 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year
185.	Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law, forty-second session [General Assembly resolution 2099 (XX)]	November (2 days)	New York	25 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
186.	United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities [General Assembly resolution 32/197]	November (1 day)	New York	195 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
187.	Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment [General Assembly resolution 39/46 A][b]	November (1 day)	Geneva	139 G	I (EFRS)	T	SR	One session every two years
188.	Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East [General Assembly resolution 1729 (XVI)]	November (1 meeting)	New York	195 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One meeting per year
189.	Investments Committee [General Assembly resolution 248 (III)]	November	New York	11-12 E	—	—	—	Four or five meetings per year
190.	Ninth Annual Conference of the High Contracting Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects [article 13, paragraph 1, of the Amended Protocol][b,d]	November	Geneva	69 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
191.	Annual meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction [Decision of the States parties at its Fifth Review Conference][b,d]	November/ December (1 week)	Geneva	144 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
192.	Disarmament Commission, organizational session [General Assembly resolution S-10/2]	November/ December (1-2 days)	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session per year
193.	Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/104 and 1999/65]	3-11 December	Geneva	22 G	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year
194.	Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, second session [General Assembly resolution 58/4][b]	10-14 December	Vienna	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year and biennially after the second session
195.	Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1989/104 and 1999/65]	11-13 December	Geneva	23 G	I (CEFRS)	T	—	One or two sessions per year
196.	UNICEF, Executive Board, extraordinary budgetary session [Executive Board decision 2000/7]	13 and 14 December[f]	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	One session every two years
197.	Human Rights Council, Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances [Economic and Social Council decision 2004/260 and General Assembly resolution 60/251]	December (2 weeks)	Geneva	5 E	I (AEFS)	T	—	
198.	UNU, Council, fifty-fourth session [General Assembly resolution 3081 (XXVIII)]	December (1 week)	Tokyo	28 E	I (EF)	T	—	One session per year
199.	Security Council, Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission established pursuant to Security Council resolution 692 (1991), sixty-sixth session[d]	December (3 days)	Geneva	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Four sessions per year
200.	Third meeting of the States parties to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families [General Assembly resolution 57/218][b]	December (1 day)	New York	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session every two years
201.	Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [General Assembly resolution 55/75]	December (1 meeting)	Geneva	195 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One meeting per year

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
202.	UNCTAD, Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	December	Geneva	[c]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
203.	Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat [General Assembly resolution 56/206]	December	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Four meetings per year
204.	UNEP, Committee of Permanent Representatives [Governing Council decision 13/2]	December	Nairobi	58 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Four sessions per year
205.	UNCTAD, other commodity conferences and commodity meetings [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	As required (up to 30 meetings)	Geneva	[c]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
206.	UNCTAD, seminars and study groups [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	As required (up to 30 meetings)	Geneva	[c]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
207.	UNCTAD, consultations of the Secretary-General and of the President of the Trade and Development Board [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	As required (up to 30 meetings)	Geneva	[c]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
208.	UNCTAD, executive sessions of the Trade and Development Board [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	As required (3 days)	Geneva	[c]	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
209.	UNDP and UNFPA, Executive Board, briefings and informal consultations [General Assembly resolutions 2020 (XX) and 48/162]	As required	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
210.	UNICEF, Executive Board, briefings and informal consultations [General Assembly resolutions 57 (I) and 48/162]	As required	New York	36 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
211.	Economic and Social Council, informal consultations [General Assembly resolution 50/227]	As required	New York	54 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
212.	Trusteeship Council (and drafting committees) [Charter]	As required	New York	5 G	I (CEFR)	T	PV[e]	As required
213.	Security Council [Charter]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	PV	As required
214.	Security Council Committee of Experts [decision taken by the Security Council at its 1st meeting, 1946]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
215.	Security Council, Committee on the Admission of New Members [decision taken by the Security Council at its 42nd meeting, 1946]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
216.	Security Council, Committee on Council Meetings away from Headquarters [decision taken by the Security Council at its 1625th meeting]	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
217.	Security Council Commission established under Security Council resolution 446 (1979)	As required	New York	3 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
218.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
219.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
220.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
221.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
222.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
223.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1518 (2003)	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
224.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
225.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
226.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
227.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
228.	Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan	As required	New York	15 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
229.	United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine [General Assembly resolution 194 (III)]	As required	New York	3 G	I (EF)	T	—	As required
230.	Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group [General Assembly resolution 2006 (XIX)]	As required	New York	119 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
231.	Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People [General Assembly resolution 3376 (XXX)]	As required	New York	25 G	1 (ACEFRS)	T	SR	As required
232.	Committee on Conferences [General Assembly resolution 43/222 B]	As required	New York	21 G	1 (AEFRS)	T	—	As required
233.	Committee on Relations with the Host Country [General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI)]	As required	New York	19 G	1 (ACEFRS)	T	—	As required
234.	Security Council, Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission established pursuant to Security Council resolution 692 (1991)[d]	As required	Geneva	15 G	1 (ACEFPS)	T	SR	As required
235.	ECE, committees and working groups [Economic and Social Council resolution 36 (IV)]	As required	Geneva	55 G	To be determined	T	—	As required
236.	International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [Security Council resolution 808 (1993) and General Assembly resolution 47/235][d]	As required	The Hague	11 E	1 (EF)	T	—	As required
237.	International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [Security Council resolution 955 (1994)][d]	As required	Arusha	11 E	1 (EF)	T	—	As required
238.	Human Rights Council [General Assembly resolution 60/251]	To be determined (10 weeks)	Geneva	47 G	1 (ACEFRS)	T	SR	Three sessions per year
239.	Group of governmental experts of the States parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, tenth session [Decision of the States parties, December 2001][b,d]	To be determined (4-5 weeks)	Geneva	90 G	1 (ACEFRS)	T	—	
240.	UNCTAD, expert meeting of the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	To be determined (3 weeks)	Geneva	To be determined	1 (ACEFRS)	T	—	

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
241.	UNCTAD, expert meeting of the Commission on Enterprise, Business Facilitation and Development [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	To be determined (3 weeks)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
242.	UNCTAD, expert meeting of the Commission on Trade in Goods and Services, and Commodities [Trade and Development Board decision at its thirteenth executive session (8 July 1996) and General Assembly resolution 51/167]	To be determined (3 weeks)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
243.	Meeting of experts of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction [Decision of the States parties at its Fifth Review Conference][b,d]	To be determined (2 weeks)	Geneva	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
244.	Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1273 (XLIII), 1765 (LIV) and 2004/69]	To be determined (1 week)	Geneva	25 E	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
245.	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Asia and the Pacific region [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1985/11 and 1988/15]	To be determined (1 week)	Bangkok	51 G	I (CEFR)	T	—	One session per year
246.	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean region [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1987/34 and 1988/15]	To be determined (1 week)	Santiago	41 G	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
247.	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, African region [Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/11]	To be determined (1 week)	Addis Ababa	53 G	I (AEF)	T	—	One session per year
248.	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East [Economic and Social Council resolution 1776 (LIV)]	To be determined (1 week)	A capital in the region	23 G	I (AER)	T	—	One session per year
249.	Commission on Sustainable Development, organizational session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/63]	To be determined (1 day)	New York	53 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
250.	Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, organizational session [Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31]	To be determined (1 day)	New York	19 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	One session per year
251.	Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics [Economic and Social Council decision 2004/51]	To be determined	New York	54 G	—	T	—	

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location	Membership	Servicing[a]			Periodicity
252.	INSTRAW, Executive Board [General Assembly resolution 59/260 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/57][d]	To be determined	New York	10 E	I (EFS)	T	—	One session per year
253.	Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean [General Assembly resolution 60/48]	To be determined	New York	43 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	One session every two years
254.	High-level Open-ended Working Group on the Financial Situation of the United Nations [General Assembly resolution 49/143]	To be determined	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
255.	Informal Open-ended Working Group on an Agenda for Peace and/or its subgroups [General Assembly resolution 47/120]	To be determined	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	
256.	Peacebuilding Commission [General Assembly resolution 60/180 and Security Council resolution 1645 (2005)]	To be determined	New York	To be determined	I (ACEFRS)	T	SR	
257.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Insolvency Law [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	To be determined	Vienna	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
258.	UNCITRAL, Working Group on Electronic Commerce [General Assembly resolution 33/92]	To be determined	Vienna	60 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—	Two sessions per year
259.	Commission on Narcotic Drugs, meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, European region [Economic and Social Council resolutions 1993/36 and 2005/28]	To be determined	Vienna	55 G	I (AEFRS)	T	—	One session every two years
260.	Panel of External Auditors of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency [General Assembly resolutions 347 (IV) and 1438 (XIV)]	To be determined	To be determined	9 E	I (EF)	—	—	One session per year
261.	United Nations Board of Auditors, special session [General Assembly resolution 74 (I)]	To be determined	To be determined	3 E	—	—	—	One session per year
262.	General meeting of representatives of the United Nations system and of the Organization of American States [General Assembly resolution 55/15]	To be determined	To be determined	To be determined	—	T	—	One session every two years

[a] The languages in which interpretation will be provided are indicated. The languages in which translation and meeting records will be provided vary according to the rules of procedure applicable to the body concerned and, in the case of some working groups and similar bodies, according to the actual requirements when these are less than would be provided under the rules of procedure.

[b] Treaty bodies.

[c] Open to the participation of all interested States members of UNCTAD (UNCTAD resolution 80 (III), para. 9).

[d] Conference services are funded from outside the regular budget of the United Nations.

[e] For plenary meetings only.

[f] The General Assembly, in paragraph 8 of its resolution 53/45, noted with satisfaction that, in accordance with paragraph 9 of Assembly resolution 52/56, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its forty-first session, had reviewed further its requirements for unedited verbatim transcripts and agreed to continue the use of those transcripts.

[g] When holding oral hearings.

[h] It has been the practice to provide verbatim records for plenary and First Committee meetings only.

[i] Subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

B. List of bodies whose mandates are to be presented for renewal to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session

	Organ	*Dates (2007)*	*Location*	*Membership*	*Servicing*[a]		*Periodicity*
1.	Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 [General Assembly resolution 59/46]	5-9 March	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—
2.	Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [General Assembly resolution 3349 (XXIX)]	26 March-5 April	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—
3.	Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities [General Assembly resolution 60/232]	To be determined	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—
4.	Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East [General Assembly resolution 2656 (XXV)]	To be determined	New York	9 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—
5.	Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council [General Assembly resolution 48/26]	To be determined	New York	192 G	I (ACEFRS)	T	—
6.	Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories [General Assembly resolution 2443 (XXIII)]	To be determined	Geneva	3 G	I (AEF)	T	PV[b]

[a] The languages in which interpretation will be provided are indicated. The languages in which translation and meeting records will be provided vary according to the rules of procedure applicable to the body concerned and, in the case of some working groups and similar bodies, according to the actual requirements when these are less than would be provided under the rules of procedure.

[b] When holding oral hearings.

C. Draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the principal organs of the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and treaty bodies established under the auspices of the United Nations, 2007

	Organ	*Dates (2007)*	*Location*
1.	IAEA, Board of Governors, Programme and Budget Committee	15 January	Vienna
2.	ICAO, Committee	15 January-2 February	Montreal
3.	WHO, Executive Board	22-30 January	Geneva
4.	Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, resumed fifth session	29-31 January	New York
5.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group B and informal/expert meetings	12 February-2 March	Vienna
6.	IFAD, Governing Council	13 and 14 February	Rome
7.	ICAO, Council	19 February-16 March	Montreal
8.	IAEA, Board of Governors	5-9 March	Vienna
9.	ILO, Governing Body and its committees	8-30 March	Geneva
10.	UNESCO, Executive Board	10-26 April	Paris
11.	ICAO, Committee	16 April-4 May	Montreal
12.	IFAD, Executive Board	18 and 19 April	Rome
13.	UPU, Postal Operations Council	23 April-4 May	Berne
14.	UNIDO, Programme and Budget Committee, twenty-third session	2-4 May	Vienna
15.	IAEA, Board of Governors, Programme and Budget Committee	7-11 May	Vienna
16.	WHO, World Health Assembly, sixtieth session	14-23 May	Geneva
17.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group B and informal/expert meetings	14-25 May	Vienna
18.	ICAO, Council	22 May-22 June	Montreal
19.	WMO, Executive Council	28-30 May	Geneva
20.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group A and informal/expert meetings	29 May-1 June	Vienna
21.	ILO, General Conference	5-21 June	Geneva
22.	IAEA, Board of Governors	11-15 June	Vienna
23.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, twenty-eighth session	18-22 June	Vienna

	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location
24.	FAO, Council	20-25 June	Rome
25.	ILO, Governing Body and its committees	22 June	Geneva
26.	IMO, Council, ninety-eighth regular session	25-29 June	London
27.	UNIDO, Industrial Development Board	26-28 June	Vienna
28.	ITU, Council	June	Geneva
29.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, Working Group B and informal/expert meetings	27 August-7 September	Vienna
30.	IAEA, Board of Governors	10-14 September	Vienna
31.	IFAD, Executive Board	11 and 12 September	Rome
32.	IAEA, General Conference	17-21 September	Vienna
33.	IAEA, Board of Governors	24 September	Vienna
34.	UNESCO, Executive Board	25 September-11 October	Paris
35.	Annual meetings of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund	September	Washington, D.C.
36.	WIPO, Assemblies of Member States	September/October	Geneva
37.	UNESCO, General Conference	September/October	Paris
38.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, Working Group A and informal/expert meeting	1-5 October	Vienna
39.	UPU, Council of Administration	October	Berne
40.	ILO, Governing Body and its committees	1-16 November	Geneva
41.	Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, twelfth session	5-9 November	The Hague
42.	Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, twenty-ninth session	12-16 November	Vienna
43.	FAO, Council	14-16 November	Rome
44.	FAO, Conference	17-24 November	Rome
45.	IAEA, Board of Governors, Technical Assistance and Cooperation Committee	19-21 November	Vienna
46.	ICAO, Council	19 November-14 December	Montreal
47.	IAEA, Board of Governors	22-23 November	Vienna
48.	FAO, Council	26 November	Rome

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	Organ	Dates (2007)	Location
49.	IMO, Council, twenty-fourth extraordinary session	29-30 November	London
50.	UNIDO, General Conference, twelfth session	3-7 December	Vienna
51.	IMO, Assembly, twenty-fifth session	3-14 December	London
52.	IFAD, Executive Board	12 and 13 December	Rome
53.	IMO, Council, ninety-ninth regular session	14 December	London
54.	International Seabed Authority, Assembly, thirteenth session	To be determined	Kingston
55.	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Executive Council	To be determined	The Hague
56.	Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, sixth session	To be determined	The Hague or New York
57.	Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, Budget and Finance Committee	To be determined	The Hague
58.	UNWTO, General Assembly	To be determined	Cartagena
59.	Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty	To be determined	To be determined